MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) There have been some press reports about clandestine trade in computers in the country. These have been brought to the notice of the Directorates of Revenue Intelligence and Anti Tax Evasion.

The Government of India have taken the following steps to discourage the possibility of any clandestine trade in computers :—

(i) Computer systems of CIF value above Rs. 1.5 lakhs and computer peripherals (except monitor and key board of CIF value upto Rs. 7500) are freely importable.

(ii) Excise duty on computer systems has been reduced from 17.25 per cent to 15 per cent during the budget 1993-94.

(iii) Customs duty on computers and peripherals has been reduced to 80 per cent plus 15 per cent CVD (107 per cent) from 146.225 per cent during the budget 1993-94.

(iv) Manufacture of computer systems has been delicenced.

Cantonment Land Administration Rules, 1937

*77. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the provisions of Cantonment Land Administration Rules, 1937 are in force;

(b) whether most of the Cantonments have been openly violating the rules as provided under Rule No. 6 and 7 etc. of CLA Rule, 1937;

(c) whether no credit of fund on account of STR is being granted to Central Government by the Kanpur and Lucknow Cantonment authorities;

(d) whether Government propose to constitute a high powered committee to investigate the causes of lapses, misuse of funds and fixing up the responsibilities on the defaulting officials of these two cantonments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Cantonment Boards are permitted to lease out only lands in civilian areas and such of those lands which stand vested in them. Such lease rents are to be credited to the Cantonment funds concerned. All other leases of Government lands in Cantonments are ordered only with the approval of Government of India. Such lease amounts are collected by the Defence Estates Officer concerned and credited to the Consolidated Fund of India.

(d) No case of lapse|misuse of funds has come to the notice of the Government to warrant constitution of a Committee to investigate the matter.

(e) Does not arise.

Revision of Indian Patents Act, 1970

@*78. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dunkel's text will necessitate a complete revision of the Indian Patents Act, 1970;

(b) if so, what are the details of the revisions proposed to the said Act;

(c) whether the revision of the Patents Act is likely to come up in the current Budget Session of Parliament; and

@Previously Starred Question 18, transferred from the 26th April, 1993.